



City of Tacoma

Community's Police Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 10 2023

Hybrid Meeting

6:00 p.m.

The CPAC is comprised of Chair Allen McKenzie, Vice Chair Shayna Raphael, and Committee Members Stephen Hagberg, Jabari Hampton, Louis Cooper, Jeffrey Sargent, Angela Mealing, Andrew Nguyen, Ralette Churchill, Esther Evans

Members Present: Allen McKenzie, Stephen Hagberg, Angela Mealing, Shayna Raphael, Ralette Churchillwell, Jabari Hampton, Jeffrey Sargent

Members Absent: Andrew Nguyen, Louis Cooper

Staff Present: Staff Liaison Chelsea Talbert, Lieutenant GJ Roberts, TPD Staff Liaison Ted Richardson, Chief of Staff Curtis Hairston,

Staff Absent: Captain Gretchen Aguirre

Called to order at 6:03pm

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the agenda for the CPAC meeting held on April 10, 2023

Passed at 6:04

Approval of the Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the March 13, 2023 CPAC meeting.

Motion passed at 6:04

Briefing Items

City Reports

City Manager's Office

- 6:05 - Ted shared on April 26th CIRA, TACOD, HRC are hosting a joint meeting at Peace Community Center (2106 S. Cushman Ave, Tacoma, WA) focused on questions for Chief Moore. Ted asked if anyone from CPAC is planning to participate. Allen expressed interest. Ted will follow up via email and requested RSVPs to prevent quorum issues.

Tacoma Police Department

- 6:11 – Chief of Staff Curtis Hairston and Lt. Roberts shared there are no updates.

Complaints Review

- 6:09 – Allen opened the floor for review of most recent batch of complaints.
- Shayna shared that the sustained report was very thorough, and she appreciated how much information was included. Allen concurred.
- Allen asked if it is ever appropriate for officers to use their personal cell phones at work. Lt. Roberts said it might not be in an official policy. Lt. Roberts said the sustained finding and oral warning will stay in his file for a year and could possibly contribute to progressive discipline. He reminded that more serious complaints may not need to follow the progressive discipline progress.
- Allen asked if there is a policy against officers dating people they interact with during an official call. Lt. Roberts said there is no policy he can find that would prevent officers from dating someone they meet on official business.
- Ralette shared that the numbers for the complaints don't add up. Shayna said that might be because an investigation may take longer if something is more serious. Shayna's internal affairs investigation took a year to get all the materials.
- Ralette shared that CPAC should start making a list of things that are not a policy that should be a policy and note that those are different from interactions where folks are not satisfied. Shayna said that if something isn't a policy violation, it could be used to advocate for increased trainings.
- Ralette shared having demographic information as well as information about intersecting identities would help to identify patterns.
- Ted shared he has up-to-date numbers. There are 39 pending complaints CPAC has not received.
- Allen identified that in complaints 86, 89, and one towards the end, all identified that TPD did respond but did not contact the 911 caller. Allen asked if the policy is to not contact a caller unless they explicitly ask to be contacted. Lt. Roberts said a lot of times people don't want police knocking on their door and may want to remain anonymous. He shared there are multiple codes to identify if the caller wants contact and that it doesn't hurt if the officer asks the 911 operator if they would like contact. Lt. Roberts said TPD could do a better job. Allen asked if South Sound 911 should explicitly ask if the caller wants contact and Lt. Roberts said that might not be necessary. He also shared that sometimes when people request a response, TPD can cancel it if, for example, there was only one call in an area in two hours.
- Allen asked for clarification on circumstances when a supervisor may cancel a call. Lt. Roberts shared that there are folks who call frequently or perhaps a speeding call in the area. If there is

only one call in the area, it can pend for a while and then supervisor will cancel depending on the seriousness.

- Allen asked how often police respond to gun shots. Lt. Roberts said they respond quite a bit but it can depend on how many callers. If there are several callers, they will respond especially if there is specific information that can help identify a location. Chief Hairston said TPD is working on getting a grant for “shot spotter” which will be very helpful with identifying where shots are fired, what speed a vehicle or person is moving, etc. Lt. Roberts shared it is illegal to shoot a BB gun in City limits (in addition to a regular gun).
- Ralette asked how the data from gun shots informs hot spot policing. Chief Hairston shared that hot spot policing is only for violent crime so aggravated assault, murder, etc. A gunshot in the air doesn’t necessarily constitute a violent crime. Chief Hairston said the hope is that in the 16-20 hotspots, crime will not happen because the officers are already there with their lights on. The shot spotter will gather information that narrows down to 10 feet and records the frequency which can identify the caliber of the weapon. Hot spots are a block radius.

Member Report Backs

- 6:42 – Allen asked if anyone attended State of the City. Ted shared that there was minimal community presence and the CPAC table talked to about 10-15 people including teachers and students about the youth seat. Ted shared the questions were focused on learning about CPAC and about opportunities for youth to attend afterschool activities
- 6:46 – Stephen shared about the discussion with UWT students. Stephen said they were pre-law students asked excellent questions and many of them were not local. Allen shared the moderator asked great questions and would be a good person to perhaps attend future meetings. Stephen highlighted Louis’s engaging conversation with students. Ted noted that students asked questions about the use of cell phone cameras that offered a different perspective.

6:50 – Allen shared that he was invited to join the Violent Crime Reduction Phase 2 Workgroup. Allen shared he would like to get some public input to be able to share back to the group which is primarily City staff. The next phase of the reduction plan will focus on 8810 and 8820 Hosmer St which has been identified as the most violent area of the City. Allen proposed setting up a community forum with Safe Streets and the South End of Tacoma to create an all-hands-on-deck approach. Ralette said Safe Streets and the South End Neighborhood Council would be great partners as the SENCo is working on turning an encampment into a park. Ralette shared the challenge is that folks can hop on the freeway and there are challenges with all the hotels. Allen shared there are code compliance issues being pursued. Allen stated it is a huge problem. Ralette shared that there have been a bunch of problems and that she doesn’t see it as a good space to put tax dollars for affordable housing right now. Allen clarified the Here are a couple of quick notes (feel free to edit/condense/reword anything!) that can help guide your remarks:

- The Equity Index Champions are grassroots advocates who meet monthly to provide input on the Equity Index, support implementation, and advocate for use of the index in their departments and in their work
- One example of how our cross-departmental implementation team has collaborated is our Story Map. This visual tool tells the story of the Equity Index and shares examples of the Equity Index in Action. Because of this Story Map, the City of Tacoma will receive the Special Achievement in

GIS (SAG) Award at the 2023 Esri User Conference. This award is given to user sites around the world to recognize outstanding work with GIS technology. Our organization stood out from more than 100,000 others.

- We are continuing to present about the Equity Index both internally and externally, including local partners like Metro Parks and the Joint Municipal Action Committee and national platforms like National League of Cities and the United States Department of Commerce. Tacoma is considered a leader in this work.
 - The Equity Index will be integrated into the REAP Refresh process.
 - The Implementation Team is developing a highly-interactive workshop which will focus on hands on use of the Index through the lens of our REAPs and anti-racist transformation goals.
 - Public education includes updated communication materials and new videos highlighting community members and local businesses to be filmed this Spring.
 - As always, we are here to support you/everyone is using the Equity Index. We offer personalized support, thought-partnership, and analysis.
 - You can see on the wheel all of the ways the Equity Index is already being used. I am going to hand it off to Christina to share some of those examples with you now.
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- problem addresses are private property, and said Lt. Katz covers that area. Ralette asked if there is leverage with a business operating license or not allocating funding to a nonprofit. Stephen asked if Allen has a vision for what a community forum would look like. Allen shared that it could be at Star Center. Stephen identified that the South Tacoma Business Council is a stakeholder. Ralette shared that there is a bus rapid transit line coming to Pacific Ave where there are community engagement opportunities. Stephen elaborated that BRT will be 14 miles from the Roy “Y” to Downtown Tacoma and is led by Pierce Transit. Allen said that environmental investments like trees and sidewalks might be helpful. Allen asked CPAC members to think about it and to email Allen and Jeffrey if folks have other thoughts on how to take advantage of the seat at the table. Allen would like to set it up before the May meeting. Ted recommended prioritizing outreach
 - 7:09 – Allen shared that there was a presentation to City Council on property crime. Allen shared that TPD identified a need for camera footage to help develop probable cause. Allen was “porch pirated” and has a video of the crime as well as information about a possible location. Allen shared he was stuck in an endless phone loop where he was not able to share evidence until Shayna recommended Allen reach out to CLO Officer Butts who gave Allen the link to upload evidence and email the information. Allen would like to give a shout out to Officer Butts and also highlight how challenging it was to upload evidence. Shayna said that she has always appreciates her community liaisons.
 - Jeffrey said the City offers an evaluation that provides environmental design recommendations to prevent crime at either your home or your business. Ted offered to get more information. Jeffrey said it would be great if it could be proactive. Allen recommended adding it to the CPAC website. Ted requested a list of items CPAC members would like to have on an outreach page on the website.
 - Jeffrey said the catalytic converter event on March 17 was effective and easy. Jeffrey has a couple friends who have had their gas tanks drilled out on pickup trucks. Ralette asked if there was more information about people who have committed crimes. Jeffrey shared they had not been caught. Allen highlighted that often folks who are experiencing homelessness not only perpetrate crimes but are also victims of crimes.

Public Comment

- 7:23 - Allen opened the floor for public comment. There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

Policy Subcommittee

- 7:24 - Stephen shared most the meeting was focused on complaints.

Oversight Subcommittee

- 7:25 – Shayna shared Oversight is still meeting with David Perez and nearing a final recommendation.

Outreach Subcommittee

- 7:25 – Jeffrey shared that outreach has shared the youth seat fliers in several spaces and have had successful contact with local libraries. Jeffrey shared that having a shared calendar on the Tacoma website would be helpful. Chief Hairston offered to connect Jeffrey to Bervin.

Subcommittee Membership:

- Oversight Subcommittee: Louis Cooper, Shayna Raphael, Allen McKenzie, Ralette Churchill
- Outreach Subcommittee: Esther Evans, Andrew Nguyen, Jeffrey Sargent, Angela Mealing
- Policy Subcommittee: Jabari Hampton, Stephen Hagberg, Allen McKenzie, Ralette Churchill

Chair Remarks

- 7:29 Allen shared gratitude to everyone for volunteering and encouraged anyone who is able to attend the April 26th meeting to attend.
- Jacques shared that the City is creating a cross-departmental strategic Community Safety Plan. Jacques shared the outline for the plan will include socio-economic factors, prevention efforts with priority populations, alternative response, improving and transforming public safety departments, and restorative justice. He confirmed the plan is still very early in the process. Allen asked about the timeline and Jacques shared that the ambitious goal is to complete the plan by the end of 2023 with robust engagement. Ralette shared she would like to be actively involved in the Community Safety Plan.
- Esther shared she got an email from a community group that shared a press release for a public comment period for CALEA. CPAC members shared it is an accreditation. Esther flagged that there are no dates for providing public comment. Ted shared that public comment will be open ongoing. Esther asked if there is a way CPAC can get that feedback. Ted will request feedback.

Adjournment

Motion: Committee Member Hagberg

Second: Committee Member Rafael

Motion passed 7:42pm

/s/ Allen McKenzie

Allen McKenzie, Chair

/s/ Chelsea Talbert

Chelsea Talbert, Staff Liaison